Case 2:05-cv-40215-SFC-WC ECF No. 11 filed 07/07/05 PageID.1. Page 1 of 23

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

A-D

TISEO ARCHITECTS, INC., a Michigan corporation,

Plaintiff,

JUDGE : Gadola, Paul V.

DECK : S. Division Civil Deck DATE : 07/07/2005 @ 07:48:18

CASE NUMBER : 4:05CV40215

CMP TISEO ARCHITECTS VS SSOE INC

(LE) SI

v

SSOE, INC., a foreign corporation,

Defendant.

THOMAS M. KERANEN & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Frederick F. Butters P45426
Gary D. Quesada, P48268

Attorneys for Plaintiff 6895 Telegraph Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-3138 (248) 647-9653 (248) 647-9683 (Fax)

MAGISTRATE JUDGE CAPEL

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the transaction or occurrence alleged in the Complaint.

COMPLAINT

NOW COMES Plaintiff TISEO ARCHITECTS, INC., by and through its Attorneys

FREDERICK F. BUTTERS of the law firm of THOMAS M. KERANEN & ASSOCIATES,

P.C., and complains against Defendant SSOE, INC. in the following particulars:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Plaintiff Tiseo Architects, Inc. (hereinafter "Tiseo") is a corporate entity which is formulated and exists under the auspices of the laws of the State of Michigan.





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- At all times relevant hereto, Tiseo has conducted continuous and systematic business as an architectural design and consulting firm in Livingston County, Eastern District of Michigan.
 - Defendant SSOE INC. is a foreign corporate entity.
- 4. At all times relevant hereto, SSOE INC. has conducted continuous and systematic business in Livingston County, Eastern District of Michigan.
- 5. This Court has original federal question jurisdiction over the claims that arise herein pursuant to 28 USC 1338(a) in that the issues arise under Title 17 and Title 15 of the United States Code. In addition, this Court has supplemental jurisdiction over any State law claims that arise out of the subject transaction.
- 6. Venue is appropriate in this Court pursuant to 28 USC 1391(B)(2) in that a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims advanced herein occurred within the limits of the territorial jurisdiction of this Court.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

7. On or about June 13, 2002, Tiseo contracted with non-party First Commercial Realty for the preparation of designs and documents necessary to secure Site plan Approval for a contemplated construction project commonly known as "Chilson Commons" located at M-36 and Chilson Road, Hamburg Township, Michigan. A copy of the Tiseo work product documents are appended hereto at Exhibit "A".

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- 8. By February 25, 2003, Tiseo had completed that work and issued documents reflecting the substance thereof. Tiseo thereafter stood ready to complete the construction documentation necessary to begin the actual construction work.
- On information and belief, First Commercial Realty and/or a related LLC which had acquired rights in the project transferred those rights to the large anchor grocery store to Kroger.
- 10. In May of 2004, Tiseo received building foundation plans from SSOE, ostensibly forwarded to Tiseo for purposes of coordinating work on adjacent buildings Tiseo was performing with work to be performed for the large anchor grocery store.
- 11. In June of 2005, Tiseo employees visited the site to review the construction of the remaining buildings in the complex.
- 12. At that time, Tiseo employees discovered that not only had work commenced on the large anchor grocery store, the building was in a virtually completed state. Tiseo employees recorded their observations in the form of photographs, copies of which are appended hereto at Exhibit "B."
- 13. The completed building is virtually identical to the Tiseo Site Plan Approval work product documents.
- 14. Thereafter, Tiseo requested copies of the drawings prepared for building permits applications from the local building authority. Excerpts of the SSOE documents received through that means are appended hereto at Exhibit "C".

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- 15. Building permit documents had been prepared by Defendant SSOE, and they had been submitted to the local building authority for permits in June of 2004.
- 16. The SSOE documents bear the seal of one Terrance Granger, Architect, who is listed in SSOE's most recent Annual Corporate Report as a Vice President of the SSOE entity. The SSOE documents make no mention of the Tiseo involvement or design, and effectively represent the entirely of the work product as that of SSOE.
- 17. The SSOE building permit documents accurately reflect the building as it was constructed. On information and belief, the building itself was actually constructed from the SSOE building permit documents.
- 18. The SSOE building permit documents reflect a building which is virtually identical to the Tiseo design as that design is contained in the Tiseo Site Plan Approval work product documents.
- 19. The June 2004 SSOE documents, and the building constructed therefrom, are derivative and essentially duplicative of the Tiseo design as that design was set out in the Tiseo Site Plan Approval documents.

COUNT I COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

- 20. Tiseo incorporates the substance of Paragraph(s) 1 through 19 above by reference, as if such were set forth and repled verbatin herein.
- 21. Technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents produced by Tiseo are copyrightable under 17 UCS 101 and 102, because they are original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression which can be perceived.

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reproduced or otherwise communicated.	

- 22. Tiseo, as the author and creator of the technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents, is initially vested with copyright protection under 17 USC 2001 in said materials.
- 23. Tiseo holds a valid Copyright in all of the technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents at issue herein, and therefore holds certain exclusive use rights in the materials as granted to it under 17 USC 106. Among the exclusive rights is the right to reproduce the technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents, and the right to preclude others from doing so.
- 24. Tiseo has not transferred any of its exclusive rights in the copyrighted technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents to the Defendant (or otherwise), nor has it licensed the Defendant to reproduce same.
- 25. Despite the lack of any rights conferred upon them by Tiseo to do so, the Defendant, in derogation of Tiseo's exclusive rights, copied and published Tiseo's copyrighted works.
- 26. In the alternative, despite the lack of any rights conferred upon them by Tiseo to do so, the Defendant, in violation of Tiseo's exclusive rights, prepared and published works that are derivative of Tiseo's copyrighted works.
- 27. The unauthorized reproduction of Tiseo's documents and the intellectual property they contain and reflect by the Defendant constitutes a wilful infringement of Tiseo's exclusive copy and other exclusive use rights.

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- 28. Tiseo has complied with 17 USC 410 by delivering its application, fee, and deposit of materials to the Register of Copyrights, thereby claiming its copyright in the technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents at issue. Tiseo has also received certificates of registration for the copyrighted materials from the Register of Copyrights. A copy of the certificate is appended hereto at Exhibit "D."
- 29. Tiseo has accordingly met all of the requirements of 17 USC 411, and it therefore entitled to enforce its remedies against the Defendant.
- 30. Occasioned on the Defendant's infringement of its exclusive rights of use and reproduction of the subject technical drawings, architectural works and attendant design documents, Tiseo has suffered and will continue to suffer injury as provided for in the applicable statue, including but not limited to lost profits and lost potential business opportunity.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff TISEO ARCHITECTS, INC., demands Judgment against Defendant SSOE, INC. in an amount borne by the evidence, including in accordance with applicable statutes, together with an order prohibiting further copying or distribution of the subject materials and an order requiring their immediate return to the possession and control of Tiseo, and an order taxing to the Defendants all costs and Attorney's fees wrongfully incurred in the formulation and prosecution of this cause.

COUNT II VIOLATION OF LANHAM ACT

31. Tiseo incorporates the substance of Paragraph(s) 1 through 30 above by reference, as if such were set forth and repled verbatin herein.

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Case No.:

- 32. The Lanham Act, at 15 USC 1125 prohibits, inter alia, false designations of origin and false descriptions in connection with goods or services used in commerce.
- 33. Pursuant to the Lanham Act, any person who, or in connection with any goods or services, or any container for goods, uses in commerce any word, term, name, symbol, or device, or any combination thereof, or any false designation of origin, false or misleading description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact, which is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of such person with another person, or as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of his or her goods, services, or commercial activities by another person, shall be liable in a civil action by any person who believes that he or she is likely to be damaged by such acts.
- 34. Defendant SSOE has represented Tiseo's work product as its own, falsely designating itself as the Architect / Engineer for the work on the construction documents and otherwise.
- 35. Defendant SSOE's conduct in that regard constitutes a false designation of origin, a false or misleading description of fact and/or a false or misleading representation of fact which is likely to cause confusion, or cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of such person with another person, or as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of his or her goods, services, or commercial activities by another person.

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- 36. Defendant SSOE's conduct accordingly constitutes a violation of the Lanham Act.
- 37. Occasioned on Defendant SSOE's violation of the Lanham Act, Tiseo has suffered and will continue to suffer injury, including but not limited to lost profits and lost potential business opportunity.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff TISEO ARCHITECTS, INC., demands Judgment against SSOE, INC. in an amount borne by the evidence, including in accordance with applicable statutes, together with an order prohibiting further copying or distribution of the subject materials and an order requiring their immediate return to the possession and control of Tiseo, and an order taxing to the Defendants all costs and Attorney's fees wrongfully incurred in the formulation and prosecution of this cause.

THOMAS M. KERANEN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Frederick F. Butters, P45426

Attorney for Plaintiff 6895 Telegraph Road

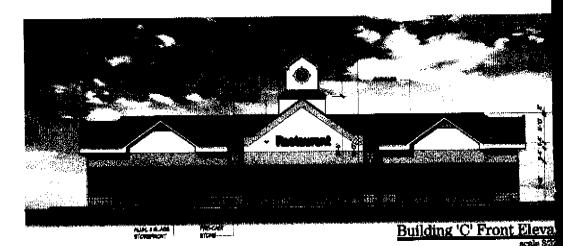
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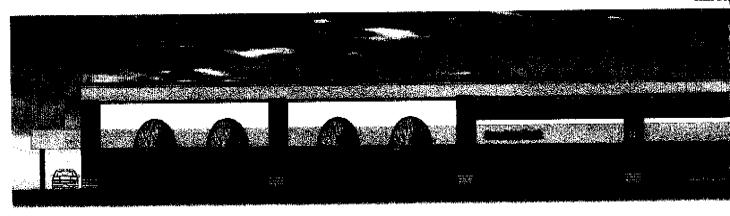
(248) 647-9653

(248) 647-9683 (Fax)

Dated: June 28, 2005







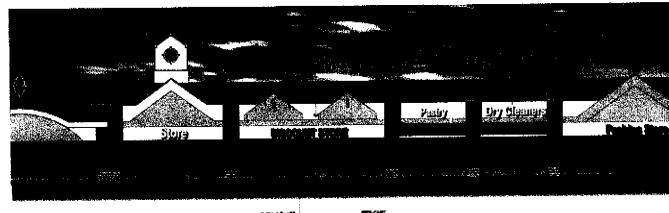
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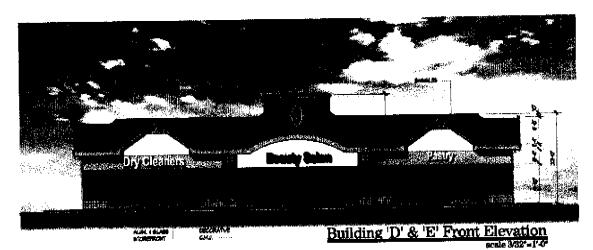


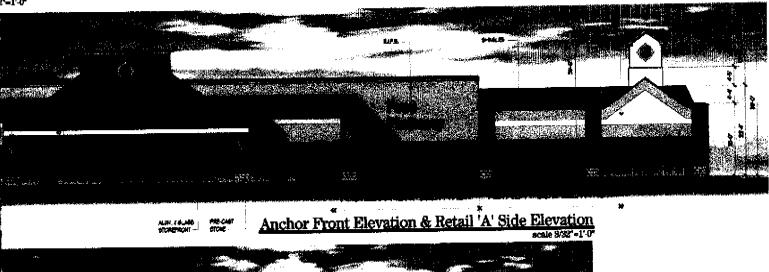
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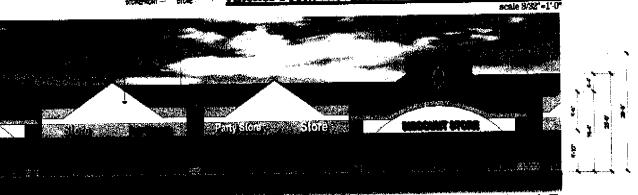
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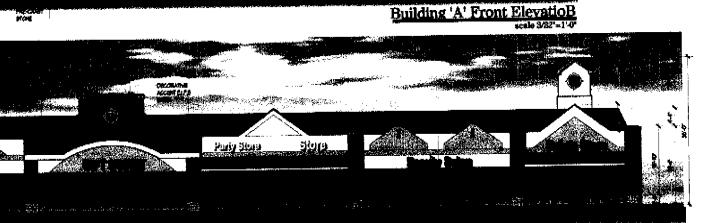






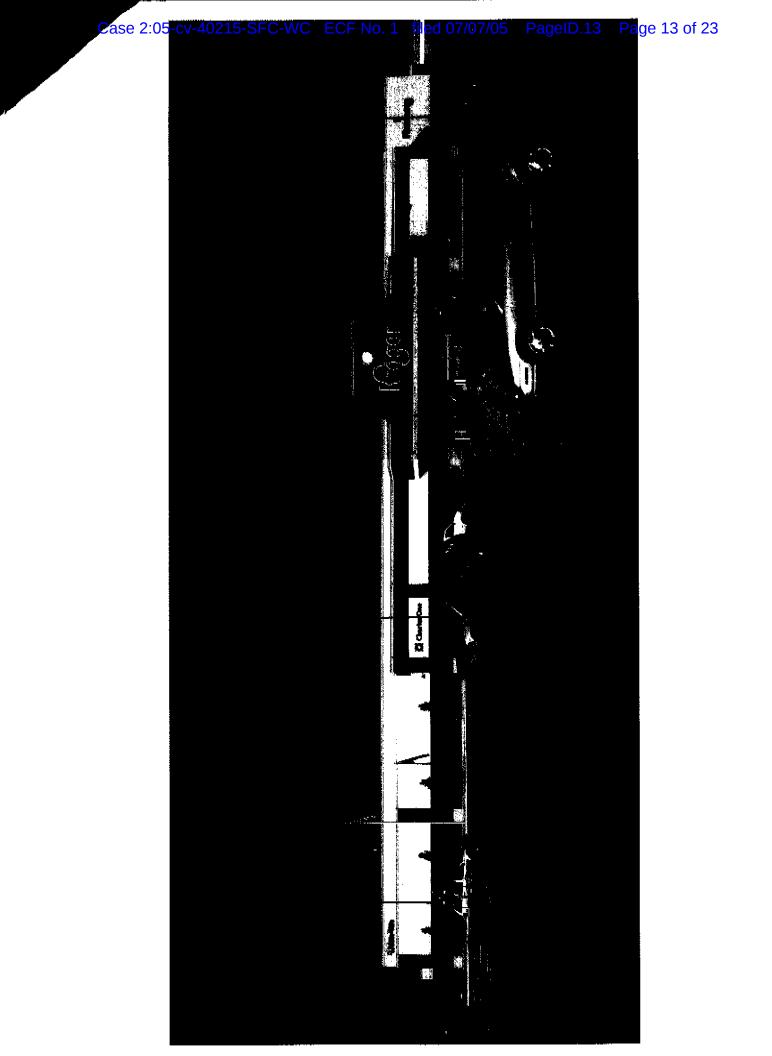


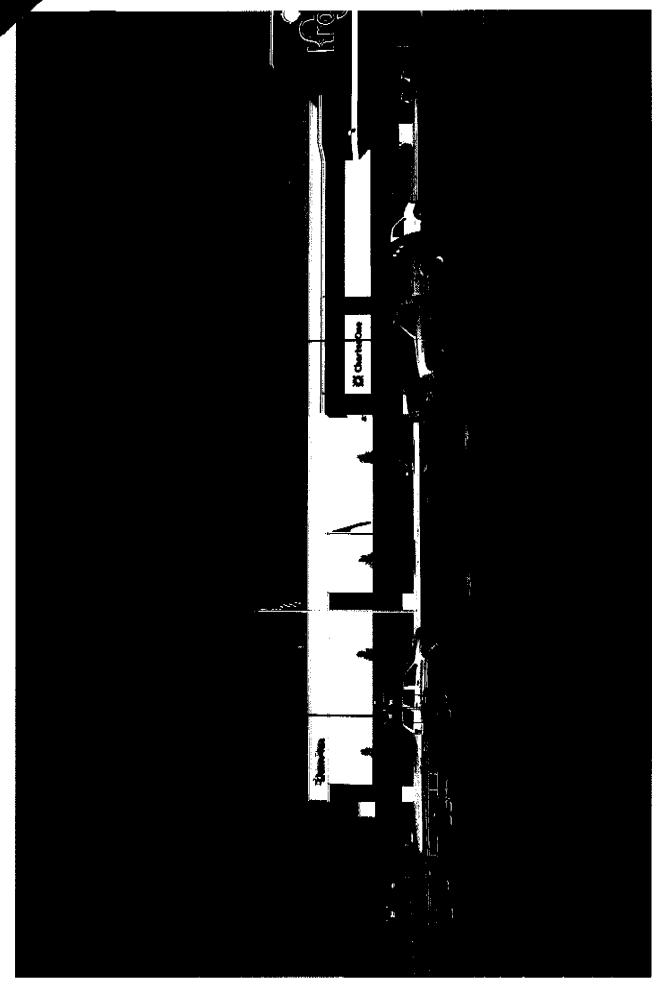


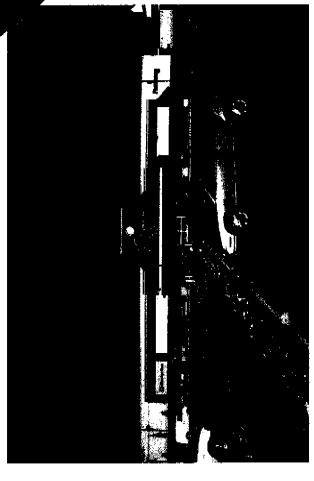


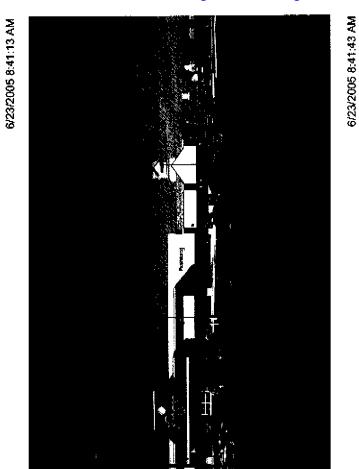
Building 'B' Front Elevation



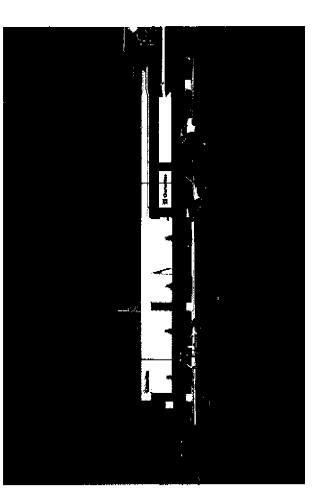




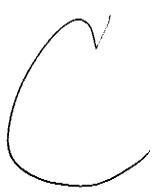


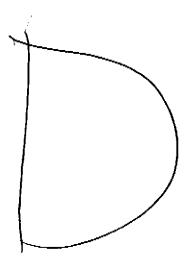


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CHILSON COMMONS, HAMBURG TWP., MICHIGAN





Case 2:05-cv-40215-SFC-WC ECF No. 1 filed 07/07/05 PageID.20 Page 20 of 23 ncate of Registration



This Certificate issued under the seal of the Copyright Office in accordance with title 17, United States Code, attests that registration has been made for the work identified below. The information on this certificate has been made a part of the Copyright Office records.



VAu 656 -- 458



Register of Copyrights, United States of America

JUN 16 2005

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGISTRATION

MAY 9 1 2005

ES OF AMERICA L'TISEO ARCHITECTS, INC. MAT 3 1 ZUUD

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE, USE A SEPARATE CONTINUATION SHEET Table of This Work Y NATURE OF THIS WORK Y See instructions Food Store Building Elevation, Chilson Commons, M-36 & Chilson Road Architectural work Hamburg Two Michigan (2005) Previous or Alternative Titles ▼ Publication as a Contribution if this work was published as a contribution to a periodical serial or collection give information about the collective work in which the contribution appeared. Title of Collective Work ▼ If published in a periodical or senal give. Volume ▼ Number ▼ Issue Date V On Pages ♥ 、 NAME OF AUTHOR DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH Year Died ▼ Year Born ▼ Tiseo Architects, Inc., Employer for hire of Benedetto Tiseo Was This Author's Contribution to the Work Author's Nationality or Domicile Was this contribution to the work a work made for hire"? ☐ Yes ☐ No Anonymous? of these questions is Yes" see detailed 🖾 Yes Yes No Pseudonymous? instructions Under the law Domiciled in the author of Nature of Authorship Check appropriate box(es) See Instructions for hire" is generally the employer not □ 3-Dimensional sculpture □ Мар ☐ Technical drawing Photograph 2-Dimensional artwork the employee Reproduction of work of art ☐ Jewelry design ☑ Architectural work tions) For any part of this work that was made for hire check Yes in Name of Author ▼ Dates of Birth and Death Year Died ▼ the space provided give Year Born V ine employer (or other Author's Nationality or Domicile Name of Country Was This Author's Contribution to the Work Was thus contribution to the work a person for If the answer to e "work made for hire"? whom the work ☐ Yes □ No OR Cutzen of of these quest was propered) as "Author of ☐ Yes Pseudanymous? □ Yes 🗓 No "Yes " 200 de instructions □ No Domucaled in that part and page for detea Nature of Authorship Check appropriate buz(es) See Instructions of birth and □ 3-Dimensional sculpture ☐ Technical drawing death blank 2-Dimensional artwork □ Photograph □ Text 🗘 Jewelry design □ Reproduction of work of art □ Architectural work Year in Which Creation of This Work Was Date and Nation of First Publication of The Pacticular Work Complete this information ONLY if this work has been published Completed Month . 2003 must be given Year in all cases Netion COPYRIGHT CLAIMANT(S) Name and address must be given even if the clumant is the same as the APPLICATION RECEIVED MAY 31 2005 ONE DEPOSIT RECEIVED author given in space 2 🔻 Tiseo Architects, Inc. <u>mar 31, 2005</u> 19815 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan 48152 ESE CI pe instructions TWO DEPOSITS RECEIVED Transfer If the cimmant(s) named here in space 4 is (are) different from the author(s) named in space 2 give a brief statement of how the claimant(s) obtained ownership of the copyright. **FUNDS RECEIVED**

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CIVIL COVER SHEET

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the 55 ++ civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings of by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the united States in September 197

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		
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(c) Attorney's (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)		ent to the
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100 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Leans (Exel, Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 1210 Land Condemnation 220 Forcelosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 112 Torts to Land 112 Torty 113 Torty 113 Torty 113 Torty 114 Torty 115	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 365 Personal Injury ☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability	620 Other Food & Drug 625 Drug Related Scizure of Property 21 USC 881 630 Liquor Laws 640 R.R. & Truck 650 Airline Regs. 660 Occupational Safety/Health 690 Other 10 Fair Labor Standards 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 740 Railway Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	□ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS ■ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) ■ FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 RS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketter Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 892 Henergy Allocation Act 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
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VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	N DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	y if demanded in complaint: 1: Yes 2 No
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PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11

1.	Is this a case that has been previously dismissed?	Yes
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2.	Other than stated above, are there any pending or prev discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or a court, including state court? (Companion cases are mait appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or related parties are present and the cases arise out of transaction or occurrence.)	ny other tters in which or the same
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